

ARGUMENT AGAINST PROPOSITION 88

All Californians want better schools, but the promoters of Proposition 88 have taken the wrong approach. Concerned teachers and parents have joined with taxpayer groups and small business organizations to oppose Proposition 88. Here's why:

- Proposition 88 does nothing to assure that funds raised in your community are spent on your schools. Proposition 88 lets the State Legislature give your tax money to any school district in the state.
- Proposition 88 creates a whole new kind of statewide property tax. Currently, all property taxes are collected locally and are used for local services, such as improving your local schools, reducing traffic congestion, improving health care, and increasing firefighting, paramedic, and law enforcement capabilities. The Prop. 88 property parcel tax goes to the State first.
- Proposition 88 would impose the first statewide property tax since 1910 and would encourage other special interests to pass more and bigger property parcel taxes for their self interest causes.
- Opening the door to the new property parcel tax could lead to huge new property taxes, contrary to the clear intent of Proposition 13 to limit property taxes. We could see owners of small homes or mom-and-pop stores taxed out of their homes and shops.
- This new tax is never ending; we will pay it forever, whether it does anything to help schools or not!
- Proposition 88 gives Sacramento politicians increased power to decide where and how to spend your money.
- Proposition 88 uses a loophole to get around the two-thirds vote requirement in Proposition 13 to increase taxes. Proposition 13 requires a two-thirds voter approval to impose a local property parcel tax. Proposition 88 would impose a new statewide property parcel tax with only a simple majority vote. As a result, it is much easier

to impose new statewide parcel taxes than a local parcel tax. This is another good reason to stop statewide property parcel taxes now before we are flooded with property parcel tax propositions.

People concerned about our kids and schools say:

“As a public school teacher, nothing is more important to me than the quality of our schools. Proposition 88 is poorly drafted, it will result in tax money raised in our community being spent by the State Legislature anywhere in the state.”

—Lillian T. Perry, *Middle School Teacher*
Teacher of the Year 2002

“We are the parents of two children in public schools and are active in our PTA. We are very concerned about the impact of Proposition 88 on our local schools and are voting NO.”

—Paul and Susanna Fong
El Dorado Hills

“Most of the school teachers I know are voting No on Proposition 88. It's bad for our schools and bad for our kids.”

—Kate McGowan-Otto, *4th Grade Teacher*
Winner, Honorary Service Award, 2005

Proposition 88 doesn't solve problems; it creates new ones. That's why Parents and Teachers agree with Taxpayers and Small Business Owners. Vote NO on Proposition 88.

For more information visit: www.noprop88.com.

DR. TOM BOGETICH, Executive Director
 California State Board of Education (Ret.)

JON COUPAL, President
 Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association

JOEL FOX, President
 Small Business Action Committee

REBUTTAL TO ARGUMENT AGAINST PROPOSITION 88

Please read Proposition 88 for yourself. It's a modest investment to help ensure students have updated textbooks, smaller classes, and safer campuses.

Two ultra conservative special interest groups are opposing this measure, just like they've opposed other efforts to improve public education in our state. They have never proposed a solution to fix our schools. Instead, they hide behind a smokescreen of distortions and will say anything to stop Prop. 88.

But don't just take our word for it. READ 88 FOR YOURSELF. Then please join teachers, parents, businesses, and taxpayers around the state in voting YES on 88.

Prop. 88 will:

- Ensure that teachers won't have to pay for classroom learning materials out of their own pocket.
- Protect students from gangs and violence on our school campuses.
- Reduce class sizes so students can get the attention they deserve.

- Keep the funds out of the hands of Sacramento politicians to ensure that EVERY DOLLAR goes to our local schools and that EVERY COMMUNITY BENEFITS.

- Provide taxpayers and businesses an even stake in improving our schools.

- Require the most strict accountability requirements and standards ever proposed to make sure the funds don't get wasted.

- Protect the most vulnerable by exempting seniors and disabled homeowners.

- Ensure that homeowners are still protected from higher taxes due to increased property values.

Yes on Prop. 88—It's a small investment with big returns—smaller classes, new textbooks, and more learning materials.

SHELBI WILSON, California Teacher of the Year, 2006

RUSSELL “RUSTY” HAMMER, Former Chamber of
 Commerce Executive

STEPHANIE PRIDMORE, Local PTA President